

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ABU DH 00547 071232Z

46

ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

EUR-25 PRS-01 /059 W

----- 060031

O P R 070940Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO COMIDEASTFOR IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY

CNO WASHDC PRIORITY

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON PRIORITY

NAF NAPLES ITALY PRIORITY

USS PAUL IMMEDIATE

COMNAINTCOM ALEXANDRIA VA. PRIORITY

SECSTATE WASHDC 1544

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 0547

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: OCLR, TC

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR CLEARANCE USS PAUL VISIT DUBAI

REF: A. COMIDEASTFOR R211212Z APRIL 74 NOTAL

B. USS PAUL P230758Z APRIL 74 NOTAL

C. TELECON CHARGE GRIFFIN AND ACTING COS COMIDEASTFOR,
CMDR MILLER APRIL 29

1. EMB BELIEVES THAT POL CLIMATE IN UAE HAS IMPROVED TO
POINT WHERE REGULAR COMIDEASTFOR SHIP VISITS CAN BE SCHEDULED
TO BOTH ABU DHABI AND DUBAI. THEREFORE, UNDER ORDINARY CIR-
CUMSTANCES, WE WOULD HAVE WELCOMED VISIT OF USS PAUL TO DUBAI
AT THIS TIME AS DEMONSTRATING RETURN TO NORMALCY IN SHIP
VISIT POLICY AND ACCENTUATING HEIGHTENED USG INTEREST
GENERALLY IN THE GULF. HOWEVER, AS EXPLAINED TO ACTING CHIEF
OF STAFF MILLER IN TELECON APR 29 (REF C), THIS IS NOT NORMAL
PERIOD IN POST'S OPERATIONS, AND FOR REASONS EXPLAINED BELOW,
POST CANNOT ADEQUATELY SUPPORT VISIT OF USS PAUL TO DUBAI MAY
22-24, AND RELUCTANTLY REQUESTS THAT VISIT BE CANCELLED. POST
DID NOT RECEIVE MIDEASTFORCE EMPLOYMENT SCHEDULE DTD MARCH
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PAGE 02 ABU DH 00547 071232Z

29 UNTIL MAY 1 LISTING VISIT OF PAUL TO DUBAI ON DATES SPECI-

FIED. HAD WE RECEIVED SCHEDULE EARLIER, WE WOULD, OF COURSE, HAVE REQUESTED CANCELLATION PROMPTLY IN ORDER ALLOW COMIDEASTFOR MAXIMUM TIME TO SELECT ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM FOR PAUL.

2. FOLLOWING ARE REASONS WHY WE FEEL OBLIGED REQUEST CANCELLATION:

A. POST CURRENTLY IN THROES OF PREPARING FOR EARLY ARRIVAL OF NEW RESIDENT AMBASSADOR AND FOR CONSEQUENT UPGRADING OF POST. ALSO, ON VERY SHORT NOTICE, WE CAN EXPECT VISIT OF AMBASSADOR STOLTZFUS TO MAKE HIS FAREWELL CALLS.

B. DURING PERIOD PAUL SCHEDULED VISIT DUBAI POST WILL BE ENGAGED IN SUPPORTING COMMERCE DEPT COMMUNICATIONS TRADE MISSION TO ABU DHABI. THIS WILL COMPLETELY OCCUPY TWO OFFICERS OF ECON SECTION.

C. BOTH PRINCIPAL OFFICER AND SENIOR ECON OFFICER PREPARING LEAVE POST ON TRANSFER IN JUNE AND THEREFORE, HAVE VERY FULL CALENDARS IN ORDER COMPLETE PENDING TASKS AND HAND OVER DUTIES TO SUCCESSORS.

D. POST SCHEDULED FOR GAO INSPECTION FIRST WEEK OF JUNE, AND PRIOR THAT SENIOR STATE OFFICER RESPONSIBLE FOR ADMIN IN AREA VISITING MAY 18-21.

3. TO PROPERLY SUPPORT SHIP VISIT TO EITHER ABU DHABI OR DUBAI IT NECESSARY FOR ONE EMB OFF DEVOTE BETTER PART OF WEEK LAYING GROUND WORK WITH UAEG, VARIOUS MIL COMMANDS, AND AMERICAN COMMUNITY. IN CASE OF DUBAI, CONTROL OFFICER MUST GO AT LEAST DAY IN ADVANCE AND CHARGE SHOULD BE ON HAND FOR ALL OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS. IN TERMS OF WORK PRIORITIES AND GIVEN SMALL STAFF AT THIS POST, IT IS MY CONSIDERED JUDGEMENT FOR REASONS CITED ABOVE, THAT EMB CANNOT DIVERT NECESSARY MANPOWER RESOURCES TO ASSURE SUCCESS OF PAUL VISIT. SUGGESTION WAS MADE BY COMIDEASTFOR THAT VISIT POSSIBLY COULD BE ADMINISTRATIVELY SUPPORTED BY DETAIL OF NAVAL PERSONNEL TO DUBAI. THIS MOST GENEROUS OFFER WHICH WE APPRECIATE, BUT IT NOT PRACTICAL, EVEN IF OFFICERS FAMILIAR WITH AREA, SINCE UAEG AND LOCAL DUBAI AUTHORITIES WOULD EXPECT UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 ABU DH 00547 071232Z

FROM POL STANDPOINT FULL EMB INVOLVEMENT AND WOULD MISREAD ANY LESSOR EFFORT.

4. FOR FUTURE PLANNING POST RECOMMENDS 2-3 SHIP VISITS ANNUALLY TO UAE. ALTHOUGH DUBAI HAS BY FAR MOST MODERN AND BEST EQUIPPED HARBOR, IN UAE AND AS CITY IS REASONABLY ATTRACTIVE FOR SHORE LEAVE, IT ESSENTIAL FROM POL STANDPOINT THAT WE BALANCE USN SHIP VISITS TO BOTH UAE PORTS, ABU DHABI AS WELL AS DUBAI.

POST RECOMMENDS THAT COMIDEASTFOR IN ITS ADVANCED PLANNING SCHEDULE MAJOR SHIP VISIT TO UAE IN EARLY FALL. WE BELIEVE FIRST VISIT AFTER 18 MONTH HIATUS SHOULD BE TO ABU DHABI BY FLAGSHIP LASALLE WITH ADMIRAL ACCOMPANYING, IF CONVENIENT. BY FALL, AMB AND HIS NEW TEAM HOPEFULLY WILL BE SETTLED AND SHIP VISIT WOULD PROVIDE MAJOR BOOST TO USG'S POLICY OBJECTIVE OF BROADENING AND SOLIDIFYING RELATIONS WITH UAE.

5. SEPTTEL ADVISES ACTION TAKEN IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR USS MULLINNIX TO MAKE ROUTINE OPERATIONAL VISIT TO UAE ISLAND OF SIR ABU NU'AIR.
GRIFFIN

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